

**MINUTES OF THE GREAT BENTLEY PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING HELD
ON THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2017
AT 6.30PM IN THE MITCHELL ROOM, GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL**

Chaired by Melvyn Cox
Present: Barry Spake, Communications Officer
Charles Brown, Vice Chair/Treasurer
Surgery Guests: Dr. A. Nambi and Richard Miller
+ 20 Members

1. Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and our Surgery Guests Dr. Arul Nambi and Richard Miller. Apologies Noted.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting:

No points were raised and the minutes for the 17 November 2016 Meeting, the AGM, were approved.

3. Meetings for 2017:

Melvyn Cox confirmed that this room had been booked for the rest of the year. The Treasurer stated that the cost to hire the room had increased by seventy pence to £23.70.

4. PPG Liaison Meeting, Weeley 18th January 2017, Melvyn Cox, Reported on Proceedings:

Melvyn Cox attended the meeting, where on arrival had been given a very large hand-out to be read and discussed at the next liaison meeting in three months time. Melvyn gave a report on the meeting and a discussion took place regarding audiology. Anglian Community Enterprise (ACE) is the main contractor for audiology in this area.

5. Hollies Surgery News: Dr. Arul Nambi and Richard Miller:

The surgery has the most amount of patients now than it has ever seen with some 8,800. This will grow when the new houses are built, not only in Great Bentley, but within the 25 Square Mile area that we cover. Expansion of the surgery is difficult and would only keep us going for another five years. At present we have 380 Sq meters of floor space and would be looking at 1,000 Sq Metres over two floors with the cost in the region of £2million. This would give the surgery another ten years at least. At this stage we are gathering as much information as possible and will discuss the various alternatives over the next few months. Hopefully a decision will be made by May. Concern was raised that the new premises should be within safe walking distance of the present premises.

GP Forward View - we have been in talks with five other GP surgeries to form a network consisting of some 95,000 patients. In fact, that is where Dr. Bhatti is tonight, giving a presentation for us to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) along with the other five practices basically to say what we want to do. This is how we want to work together. Sharing certain costs. Working together to benefit all of us. The one key thing that will be of interest to all of you is that everyone of the six surgeries wants to retain there own autonomy. None of us wants to give up anything. So we are going to be able to run our surgery as we want to run it. The local CCG have actually funded some extra GP sessions. For last week they paid for an extra five sessions and the same again this week, and they have just confirmed an extra 2 sessions for a GP per week up to the end of March this year. In light of the surgery looking a bit tatty, and we don't want to spend a fortune on it if moving to another premises, we will be getting in someone to do some tidying-up to make it look a bit fresher.

Melvyn Cox introduced Diane Miles to those present and the Committee Members and stated that Diane has kindly volunteered to be Secretary. Asking those present if someone would be prepared to propose and second Diane to the post. Proposed by John Leggett and Seconded by Judy Bishop. Diane Miles duly voted as Secretary.

6. NHS News Items (Open Forum):

Staff Recruitment:

Persons are leaving at a higher rate than trainees are joining.

Budget Deficit - Social Care:

In the Chancellors Autumn Statement nothing was done to address this. £1.9Bn deficit in Adult Social Care but since then local councils have been told that they can raise taxes to help fund any deficit they have in that respect. It is thought that it could help with 25% of the deficit.

Healthcare "Passports":

The Nuffield Trust picked up on Passports for Healthcare. Apparently a senior civil servant says they are not necessary because they will only affect foreign abusers and it is only a minute problem.

False Reporting:

Some NHS trusts are falsely reporting adherence to budgets in order to avoid criticism.

Medicines Waste:

Currently estimated at £300m per year, and it is reckoned that 50% of that is easily preventable - according to NEECCG.

Hospital Bed Occupancy Rate:

The hospital bed occupancy rate over this winter has been at 95% up and down the country. Apparently, the NHS acknowledges that the risk of infection rises considerably once the rate goes above 85%.

Hospitals issue record number of warnings:

All the November waiting times targets were missed.

7. Any Other Business:

A short discussion about prescriptions ordering and items removed from prescriptions took place, with Dr. Arul Nambi explaining the system in place at the surgery.

Alan Bishop spoke about the new test for bowel cancer. This test is different to finding blood in the stool, as it finds and removes polyps in the bowel that could turn cancerous. Bowel cancer is the third most common cancer in the UK affecting 1 in 18 people. Judy Bishop thanked the surgery for all the help that she had been given during seeking appointments etc., for a sick friend. It was mentioned how good the service was concerning a detached retina and the excellent treatment received from Dr. Katy Daniel, and from the hospital.

The meeting closed at 19:40 hours.

Dates for your diary - proposed PPG meeting dates for 2017:

16 February; 16 March; 20 April; 18 May; 15 June; 20 July; no meeting August;
21 September; 19 October; 16 November AGM 2017, no meeting December 2017.

Charles C. Brown
Acting Secretary